



Liverpoolcitycouncil
creating our future together

Growing Liverpool's Young People

Liverpool Youth Strategy 2012-2017
and Action Plan 2013-2017



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General Manager's Message

Liverpool City Council's Youth Strategy and Action plan aims to provide a well-planned and coordinated approach to support young people in our community.

The Liverpool Youth Council plays an imperative role in advocating on behalf of local youth and delivering youth related initiatives to our community. These include activities for young people at Council's Australia Day event, annual festivals during Youth Week and consultation with young people on issues important to them.

With more than a quarter of Liverpool's population under 18 years of age and one in five people aged 12-24 years, it is important for Council to be committed to supporting young people.

This Council Strategy provides our community with a plan to address the top priorities faced by young people and offers financial assistance to young people who undertake leadership activities on a state, national or international level.

Council also delivers Youth Week events for young people to enjoy and provides infrastructure for youth services.

It is important for Council to continue to identify key issues affecting young people in the Liverpool Local Government Area and to advocate for their needs to other levels of government.

Kind regards,

Farooq Portelli
General Manager

Acronyms and definitions

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
GCCSA	Greater Capital City Statistical Area
LCC	Liverpool City Council
LGA	Local Government Area
LYC	Liverpool Youth Council
PCYC	Police and Community Youth Club
TAFENSW	Technical and Further Education

Apparent School Retention Rate is the number of year 12 full time students expressed as a percentage of the number of year 10 full time equivalent school enrolments two years earlier.

Hard Infrastructure consists of physical assets such as community centres, schools, libraries and transport infrastructure.

Soft Infrastructure consists of the skills and knowledge or capacity of local people or groups.

Young person is a person who is aged 12 to 24 years.

Executive Summary

According to the World Health Organisation, a young person is defined as being aged 12 to 24 years. Liverpool City has a significantly higher proportion of young people than the NSW average, making a Youth Strategy important in demonstrating Council's commitment to providing relevant and responsive services and opportunities for young people.

The purpose of the Youth Strategy 2012-2017 is to:

- Provide an overview of young people aged 12 to 24 years in the Liverpool Local Government Area (LGA);
- Document issues affecting young people in the Liverpool LGA;
- Highlight priority areas for young people in Liverpool; and
- Provide an Action Plan that will assist Council to work towards the provision of targeted, coordinated and appropriate services and facilities for young people.

Previous documents that guided Council in relation to young people were the *Youth Policy 1995* and the *Liverpool Youth Strategy 1999 – The future of our youth – Our youth the future*. These documents have been reviewed to inform the current Youth Strategy. Many of

the important initiatives proposed in the *Youth Strategy 1999*, such as the establishment of a Youth Council and the construction of the Liverpool Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC), have come to fruition in the years since it was developed.

The current Youth Strategy has been informed by the views of local young people and ABS Census data. Council staff consulted with over 600 young people and 60 youth workers to understand the needs and issues affecting young people in Liverpool. A literature review of government policy was also undertaken and this combination of research and data collection has provided a comprehensive basis for this Strategy.

A range of issues affecting young people in Liverpool emerged from the consultations and data analysis, as follows:

- Drugs and alcohol;
- Crime and safety;
- Employment;
- Transport;
- Leisure and recreation;
- Education; and
- Bullying



Miller Street Art Gallery mural, Artist: Christian Atkins

The Youth Strategy 2012-2017 builds on previous activities that Council has undertaken to improve the quality of life of young people in Liverpool. The Strategy takes account of the issues noted above, which has resulted in six key priority areas for action:

- Sport and recreation
- Art and culture
- Participation and leadership
- Safety, health and well-being
- Employment and education
- Planning and infrastructure

An Action Plan has been developed in accordance with these priorities. As the Action Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis, this will promote ongoing dialogue with the community to assist in ensuring this Strategy remains relevant and responsive to local youth issues.



Liverpool Youth Council 2011

Introduction

Liverpool City has a high proportion of young people with diverse needs. Young people are impacted by a wide range of social issues including health, safety, transport, recreation and culture. Young people experience high rates of unemployment, which reach almost 30 per cent in some suburbs.¹ There are also a significant number of early school leavers, which may contribute to employment concerns. Anecdotal evidence also suggests that poverty continues to be an issue for many young people and their families.

Along with these challenges, there are many opportunities in Liverpool. These include the availability of recreation facilities such as skate parks and sporting fields, two Technical and Further Education (TAFE) colleges, numerous youth activities and events, including those at the Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, and a broad range of youth services across the City.

Over the years Council has delivered a range of services, facilities and activities for young people and has continued to celebrate the positive contribution young people make to the community of Liverpool. Council has demonstrated its commitment to young people through a number of key initiatives.

These include the establishment of the Liverpool Youth Council (LYC), the development of the skate facility at Moorebank, the construction of the Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC), the provision of 'the.space' at Liverpool City Library and the delivery of a broad range of sporting facilities and programs.

In addition, Council has continued to support young people and youth-related projects by providing funding through youth, school, community and sporting donations. This funding has assisted in addressing a range of key youth issues such as health promotion, literacy and language, crime prevention, resilience against bullying, personal development, disadvantage, homelessness, training, mentoring and leadership. The sport donations have recognised and supported sporting achievements of local young people.

This Strategy aims to build on the work already undertaken by Council and to address future opportunities and challenges for young people. The Strategy has a five year time frame and is in accordance with Council's long term Community Strategic Plan.



National Youth Week - Street Legacy 2011



Youth section at Liverpool City Library - 'the.space'

¹ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), 2006 Census. At the time of printing, updated employment figures from the 2011 Census were not released.

Development of the Youth Strategy

Data has been collected over a five year period from 2007 to 2012 to inform the Youth Strategy. Council consulted with more than 600 young people and over 60 youth workers through a variety of engagement methods including face to face interviews, surveys and focus groups.

Consultations undertaken included:

- Surveys with young people from youth centres, organisations and other community networks;
- Face to face interviews and surveys with young people attending local youth events;
- Focus groups with young people at local schools and youth centres;
- Focus groups with Liverpool Youth Council; and
- Focus groups and surveys with youth workers in Liverpool.

A copy of the survey used in the consultation process, Youth Strategy Survey, is included in Appendix A.

An analysis was undertaken of the previous documents that guided Council in relation to young people: *Youth Policy 1995*; and *Liverpool Youth Strategy 1999 - The future of our youth - Our youth the future*.

In addition, a literature review was undertaken of government policy at a local, state, national and international level to identify focus areas for youth affairs. It is interesting to note that the issues identified in Liverpool echoed those at a state, national and international level. This highlights that youth affairs can be addressed at a variety of levels through multiple stakeholders.

The combination of the research and data collection methods has provided a rich knowledge base in the development of this Strategy. It is important to build on this through the annual Action Plan review process by fostering ongoing dialogue and consultation with young people and the wider community.



Liverpool Bicentenary Youth Event - Surround Sound 2010

Policy Framework

Legislative

International

The World Programme of Action for Youth – Economic and Social Affairs (2010) provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people. The policy framework and guidelines focus on measures to strengthen the government's capacities in the field of youth and to increase the opportunities available to young people for full, effective and constructive participation in society. The document presents fifteen priority areas as identified by the international community. These include:

- Education;
- Employment;
- Drug abuse;
- Juvenile delinquency;
- Leisure-time activities;
- Girls and young women;
- Health;
- Environment;
- Intergenerational issues; and
- Full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and decision-making.²

National

The Australian Government released a *National Strategy for Young Australians* in 2010. It aims to guide future government policy development to ensure that young people grow up safe, healthy, happy and resilient. To achieve the vision of the strategy there is a focus on eight priority areas. These are:

- Improving the health and wellbeing of all young people;
- Equipping young Australians to shape their own futures through education;
- Supporting young Australians within their families;
- Empowering young Australians to take part and be active in their communities;
- Equipping young Australians with the skills and personal networks they need to gain, and be successful, in employment;
- Enabling young Australians to participate confidently and safely online;
- Strengthening early intervention with young Australians to help prevent any problems getting worse and to help young people get their lives back on track; and
- Establishing clear cut legal consequences for behaviours that endanger the safety of others.³



Liverpool Youth Council 2010 - 2012



National Youth Week – Triple Threat 2012

² United Nations (2010) *World Programme of Action for Youth – Economic and Social Affairs*, p. V.

³ Australian Government (2010) *Executive Summary National Strategy for Young Australians*, p. 2-3.

State

The New South Wales Government's State Plan, *NSW 2021 – A plan to make NSW Number One* is a ten year plan with five specific strategies that include rebuilding the economy, providing quality services, renovating infrastructure, restoring government accountability, and strengthening our local environment and communities. Within state government departments and offices, there are a number of policies and action plans that have a focus on delivering services to and working with young people. In reviewing these policies and action plans the following priority areas and aims were related to young people:

- Encouraging and supporting young people to achieve their optimal health and wellbeing;
- Young people's experiences of services are positive, respectful, supportive and empowering;
- Responses to the needs of young people are evidence-based, promoting prevention and early intervention;
- Increasing engagement with young people in general;
- Supporting youth leadership by connecting young people to leadership development opportunities and community engagement activities; and
- Building on and strengthening the connection young people have with their neighbourhoods and communities.⁴



Liverpool Bicentenary Youth Event - Surround Sound 2010

Local

Section 8 of the Local Government Act (1993) incorporates a Charter which states that NSW councils are required to provide, after due consultation, adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community, and to ensure that those services and facilities are managed efficiently. Furthermore, councils are required to exercise their functions in a manner that is consistent with, and actively provides and plans for the needs of children – which includes young people. Council's Youth Strategy will assist Council to meet its obligations under the Charter.

Changes in Government Policy

There have been a number of other policies and plans from varying levels of government that may impact young people including:

- Keep Them Safe Reform
- Changes in the Tenancy Act
- Changes to Rentstart
- Increase of the school leaving age to 17 years
- Changes in regulations related to learner drivers
- Bail law changes
- Introduction of the Work and Development Order program



National Youth Week – Street Legacy II 2012

⁴ NSW Government, *NSW 2021 – A Plan to make NSW Number One*.

Council Planning and the Youth Strategy

Growing Liverpool 2023 – The Community Strategic Plan for the City of Liverpool, outlines what the people of Liverpool have said is important for their area. It is a plan for the whole city, not just the Council. Council is a leader and custodian of the plan and is one of the parties responsible for its delivery.

Growing Liverpool 2023 is the Council’s highest level plan. It identifies the community’s key objectives for the area as collected from community engagement processes. It also includes strategies on how to achieve those objectives. To put it simply, it is a broad look at where we want to go and how to get there. The plan aims to address the key challenges that Liverpool faces, and its unique characteristics during the next 10 years.

The diagram below indicates the key policies or plans within the Council structure. The Youth Strategy 2012-2017 relates to Council’s Community Strategic Plan - *Growing Liverpool 2021* and specific actions are incorporated into the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Social justice principles of equity, access, participation and rights were applied to Council’s Community Strategic Plan and the development of the Youth Strategy.



The following table demonstrates the link between actions in the Youth Strategy 2012-2017 and Council’s Community Strategic Plan.

Objective 1: Liverpool is the vibrant regional centre for South West Sydney

Strategy	Highlights of specific actions
Provide several events in the City Centre	Deliver an annual urban youth festival at Macquarie Mall

Objective 2: Neighbourhoods and villages are well-designed, safe and clean

Strategy	Highlights of specific actions
Undertake continual improvements to public areas	Deliver mural projects at four sites across Liverpool City
Support policies and plans that prevent crime	Provide an art redirection program to help reduce graffiti in Liverpool

Objective 4: Liverpool is a socially inclusive and healthy community

Strategy	Highlights of specific actions
Support community organisations, groups and volunteers to deliver coordinated services to the community	Support and co-convene the Liverpool Youth Workers Network
Raise awareness in the community about available services and facilities	Distribute a new Youth Info Card
Support young people’s access to activities, services and spaces	Deliver Council’s Youth Strategy
Facilitate the development of community leaders	Convene regular Youth Council meetings and provide training, support and guidance

Objective 6: The culture and diversity of Liverpool is recognised and valued

Strategy	Highlights of specific actions
Facilitate the celebration of the rich variety of cultures	Deliver an annual Youth Week event

Objective 10: Liverpool has a range of business and employment opportunities

Strategy	Highlights of specific actions
Support access to employment and training particularly for young people, older people, migrants and those experiencing long term unemployment	Deliver an Employment Expo in the 2168 area in partnership with TAFE NSW and other organisations

Objective 11: Decision-making processes are transparent and the community has opportunities to be involved

Strategy	Highlights of specific actions
Encourage the community to engage in Council initiatives and actions	Resource and support the Liverpool Youth Council to enable young people to provide input and advice to Council on matters which affect youth



Liverpool Youth Council 2012



Youth Councillors

Young People in Liverpool

This section provides some basic demographic information which reflects Liverpool's young people.

Population

According to the 2011 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census, there were 34,566 young people living in the Liverpool Local Government Area (LGA), which represents nearly one in five people or 20 per cent of the total population. Liverpool's population of young people is consistently higher than Greater Sydney. When compared with surrounding LGAs in South Western Sydney, Liverpool has the second highest amount of young people and ranks second highest in relation to the proportion of young people within its bounds.⁵ The number of children aged 0-11 years in Liverpool is higher than surrounding LGAs⁶, therefore the number of young people is set to increase further in coming years.

Birthplace and Religion

The 2011 ABS Census reported that 31 per cent of Liverpool's young people were born overseas. The largest overseas birthplaces for young people are Iraq, New Zealand, Fiji, Philippines and India. There were 702 young people who identified as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander which is the same as the average for Greater Sydney at 2.0 per cent.

Compared to Greater Sydney there was a larger proportion of young people who professed a religion and a smaller proportion who stated they had no religion. Catholicism was the predominant religion among young people aged 15-24 years, with 34 per cent of young people

identifying as Catholic. This was followed by Islam at 12.3 per cent, No Religion at 11.6 per cent and Anglican at 9.1 per cent.

Employment

At the time of the 2006 ABS Census, there were 13,290 young people aged 15 to 24 years in the labour force, comprising 6,664 in full-time employment and 3,954 in part-time employment. The unemployment rate for 15-24 year olds was higher than the general unemployment rate of the Liverpool LGA at 13 per cent compared to 7 per cent. Some suburbs in the Liverpool LGA, and the 2168 postcode area in particular, have almost 30 per cent youth unemployment. This is much higher than the rate for the LGA and Greater Sydney. Just over 32 per cent of young people aged 10-24 years are living in families where one or more parents are unemployed.⁷

Education

There are currently 24 government and non-government secondary schools in Liverpool. In 2011 it was reported that 14,162 students were attending secondary government and non-government schools⁸. In 2011, the apparent school retention rates in Liverpool, among government schools was 76.5 per cent⁹. In 2011, there were 26 per cent of all young people aged 15-24 years¹⁰ outside the school setting studying full-time or part-time. More young people in Liverpool were attending a university than those attending education through Technical and Further Education (TAFE NSW), representing 17.2 per cent compared to 8.2 per cent. However, those attending university was less than the 23.7 per cent average for Greater Sydney.

⁵ According to the 2011 Census, Fairfield LGA had the greatest amount of young people in its bounds - 36,095 which represented 19.2 per cent of its total population. The highest proportion of young people was in the Campbelltown LGA with 20 per cent.

⁶ According to the 2011 Census there were 33,890 children aged 0-11 years in the Liverpool LGA.

⁷ At the time of printing updated employment figures from the 2011 Census were not released.

⁸ This figure was obtained from 2011 Census data.

⁹ Source: Department of Education and Communities, Data Analysis and Collections Unit, Planning and Innovation Directorate. Data sourced from National Schools Statistics Collections (NSSC) 2002-2011.

¹⁰ 15-24 years is used as those under 15 years of age are required to be enrolled in secondary education.

Key Issues affecting Young People in Liverpool

From the data collected, young people have told Council the issues that are important to them and have provided suggestions about how to address these issues. It should be noted that a number of these issues are interrelated. For example, the issue of drug and alcohol use relates to the issue of boredom and the need for cultural and recreational activities. It should also be noted that many of the issues raised by young people are those that have been raised by the wider community. While the issues may be linked with matters of concern for the wider community, they were raised from a youth perspective. The key issues along with some suggested approaches are outlined below.

Drugs and Alcohol

Drugs and alcohol was the top issue identified by four in ten young people (42 per cent) when asked what the top three issues for young people in Liverpool are. Raising awareness and the introduction of education programs were identified as solutions to the issues surrounding drugs and drug use. Some suggestions included delivering talks at school, providing better access to information through community workshops, and educating and exposing young people to the consequences of drug use. The majority of young people advocated prevention through improved law enforcement, by suggesting a greater police presence and stricter laws, including harsher penalties for drug dealing and use. Others suggested rehabilitation services and clinics. It is interesting to note that the issue of drugs was related to the issue of boredom, and it was suggested that introducing a greater number of programs and activities for young people could be effective in diverting them from drug use.

Crime and Safety

Various aspects of crime were raised by nearly a third (31 per cent) of young people, as the second most important issue of concern in Liverpool. Comments included references to anti-social behaviour, violence, fighting or 'gangs', vandalism, theft, stealing and stabbings. The majority of young people stated that they did not feel safe in Liverpool at night (90 per cent) and some also commented they did not feel safe during the day in certain areas of the LGA. The main suggestions to address crime and safety were to have better lighting and an increased police presence. Some young people also suggested the need for more cameras and more identifiable community leaders.

Employment

The third top issue of concern was employment. The key barrier to employment was stated to be lack of job opportunities. A solution frequently suggested was increasing job opportunities for young people and creating more services that would help young people to find employment. Some other ideas included providing incentives to employers to hire young people and give them opportunities to gain experience. Along with this, it was suggested to introduce job agencies targeting young people that would provide a list of paid and unpaid work opportunities. Another suggestion was to increase the number of seminars and workshops on employment. These could be delivered at schools and other agencies where young people can increase their skills and obtain career advice.

Transport

Another key issue highlighted by young people was access to transport. Cost and availability were identified as barriers to accessing public transport services by young people. The main suggestion was to enhance the availability and frequency of public transport by providing more bus services, as well as to make public transport services more reliable, particularly in areas which are not located close to train stations. Another recurring suggestion was to make public transport more affordable, by introducing free travel for people under 16 years of age and providing better student discounts to lower the cost of transport for young people.

Leisure and recreation

Young people noted the importance of recreation and leisure activities and expressed that there is 'not enough to do' in Liverpool. It was noted that more options for leisure and recreation are needed which could include more sporting facilities, frequent youth events, a concert hall or civic centre and entertainment facilities such as cinemas and theme parks. It was also suggested that existing facilities and spaces such as Bigge Park and the cinema be upgraded.

Education

Education was also reported as an issue of importance to young people. The majority of young people had a desire to continue onto tertiary education after school (over 80 per cent) with almost 70 per cent wanting to go to university. Distance, method of travel and cost of transport were the main barriers to accessing education opportunities.¹¹ The majority of respondents identified the need for more fun and interesting programs at school as a solution. A number of respondents specified the need to have better career and education advice for young people, to assist them in understanding opportunities and options for further education and reaching their goals. Introducing more TAFE courses and a university campus in Liverpool were also listed as a solution.

Bullying

Bullying was another issue of importance raised by young people. The predominant suggestion relating to the issue of bullying was to introduce better programs and increase the capabilities of schools to deal with the problem. Suggestions included establishing anti-bullying programs and forums, providing better counselling to students, making teachers more aware of the problem as well as delivering talks at schools to educate students on the consequences and effects of bullying. Young people also identified community programs as a solution in order to establish support groups, educate families and raise awareness in the community of the issue of bullying. A small number of people also suggested law enforcement and punishment for bullies to be a possible solution.

¹¹ Figures were obtained from Council's Education Options Survey conducted in 2010.

Other Issues

Young people identified the best things about Liverpool. These were shopping, especially Westfield Shopping Centre, and youth spaces, such as The Street University, PCYC and the Liverpool City Library. In the opinion of young people, the worst things about Liverpool are drugs, drug users, fights, littering, lack of efficient public transport and smoking.

A variety of other noteworthy issues raised by young people included:

- The most desired event types were open air cinemas, concerts/music events, festivals and sports.
- The main ways that young people access information and find out about things that are important to them are: Facebook ("Everyone posts everything on Facebook"), word of mouth, Internet (includes Facebook,

Twitter and Skype), posters and school/university. Only a small number of young people indicated that they read the local newspaper or use Council's website.

- Overall most young people agree that people from other cultures enrich the Liverpool area (83 per cent agreed or strongly agreed) and that education options in Liverpool are good (69 per cent agreed or strongly agreed).
- In terms of employment options there is room for improvement, with only 51 per cent agreeing or strongly agreeing that employment options in Liverpool are good.
- There is a need for participation opportunities, as the majority of young people surveyed indicated they did not feel their voice is valued in the community.



Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre



T-way Station

Liverpool Youth Strategy Action Plan 2013-2017

The key priority areas below have been grouped into themes based on what young people told Council is important to them in relation to Council's operations.

Sport and recreation

<i>Action</i>	<i>Council Area</i>
Deliver youth sports activities in partnership with other agencies	Recreation
Consult with young people in the development of the recreation strategy for Liverpool	Community Development
Provide sporting donations to qualifying community members, including young people, in regional, state and national sporting events	Recreation
Promote and develop junior sport (under 16s) and junior disability sport through the Sporting Grants Program	Recreation
Provide recreation opportunities for young people through Kelso Skate Park	Recreation
Provide sportsgrounds across the City	Recreation
Deliver the Midnight Basketball Program	Community Development



Parkour equipment at Collimore Park

Art and culture

Action	Council Area
Deliver the CBD Exposed urban youth music festival	Community Development
Deliver Youth Week events and activities	Community Development
Incorporate youth activities at major Council events such as Australia Day	Communications Community Development
Provide youth programs and activities at Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre	Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre
Provide a youth space and youth services at Liverpool City Library	Library Services
Provide sponsorship to eligible events, including youth events, through the Corporate Sponsorship Program	Communications and Events
Promote public art projects that engage young people, especially in the City Centre	Economic Development Community Development



Generationnext at Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre 2011

Participation and leadership

Action	Council Area
Provide leadership and development opportunities for young people through the Liverpool Youth Council	Community Development
Provide donations to young people to engage in local, national and international leadership activities through the Community Donations Program	Community Development
Encourage young people to provide advice and input into Council programs, policies and projects through the Liverpool Youth Council	Community Development
Provide volunteering opportunities for young people through community events and programs eg. Mayoral Concert, Safety Expo and Tree Planting Program	Community Development Sustainable Environment
Maintain a Liverpool Youth Council Facebook page to engage young people through social media	Communications
Provide support to local youth services by convening the Liverpool Youth Workers Network (LYWN) and Egroup	Community Development
Work with local youth services to advocate for federal and state government support, funding and services	Community Development Buildings and Open Space Construction

Safety, health and wellbeing

Action	Council Area
Deliver mural and public art projects across the City for local residents and young people	Community Development
Deliver the Casula Powerhouse Art Walls Program and support other art redirection programs to deter young people from illegal graffiti	Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre Community Development
Develop youth arts programs at Casula Powerhouse and engage young people who use the art walls to channel them into art programs that assist career development	Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre
Provide support to local youth organisations to deliver murals and art redirection programs to young people	Community Development
Promote the importance of reporting graffiti to young people via local high schools	Community Development
Support and provide information to supervisors of learner drivers to encourage safe driving among young people	Traffic and Transport
Raise awareness of youth services through the Youth Info Card	Community Development
Deliver partnership programs with local high schools, eg the Urban Farm	Community Development
Advocate and support projects within the youth services sector to address the health needs of young people, especially drug and alcohol concerns of young people	Community Development

Employment and education

Action	Council Area
Work with relevant stakeholders to identify and support opportunities for youth enterprises	Economic Development Community Development
Deliver an employment expo in the 2168 area, with a particular focus on young people, in partnership with TAFE NSW and other agencies	Community Development
Deliver a Children's Services Traineeship Program, providing one trainee childcare worker per centre, to improve local employment and training opportunities for residents, including school leavers	Children's Services
Collaborate with education providers to provide increased training and employment opportunities and better link high schools to universities and TAFE NSW (with information coordination and dissemination)	Economic Development
Provide access to digital services to assist young people to access employment and education opportunities via the Internet	Library Services
Improve the coordination of employment and vocational skill development programs aimed at high risk communities – including young people	Economic Development
Work with the Chamber of Commerce and industry Associations in the provision of employment opportunities for young people	Economic Development
Provide support to schools to develop environmental awareness and stewardship	Sustainable Environment



Youth Councillors 2008

Planning and infrastructure

It is important to note that infrastructure refers to both hard and soft infrastructure. Please see the definitions section of this strategy for more detail.

Action	Council Area
Involve young people in the development of new Council assets, where appropriate eg skate parks	Buildings and Open Space Construction
Develop a functional brief for the proposed Skate Park/Youth Precinct in Miller	Community Planning
Consider the needs of young people in the planning, upgrading and development of new Council assets eg parks and facilities	Buildings and Open Space Construction
Consider the needs of young people in social impact assessments	Community Planning Strategic Planning
Consider the needs of young people through land release planning and Section 94 Contribution Plans	Strategic Planning
Consider the needs of young people in recreation planning	Community Planning
Consider the needs of young people in the planning and provision of transport services	Traffic and Transport
Analyse and report on youth recreation infrastructure needs in new release areas to engage young people in those areas and foster a sense of inclusion	Community Planning
Assist Liverpool Youth Council to submit a grant application to deliver a youth transport issues forum	Community Development

Note: this Action Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Youth Strategy Survey



Liverpool City Council is developing a Youth Strategy 2012-2015. We need you to tell us what you think about youth issues in the Liverpool Local Government Area (LGA). Please answer the following questions based on your own experience. **All information provided will remain confidential and will only be used for the purpose of this study.**

Please return your completed surveys by **31 January 2012** to:

Liverpool City Council, Att: Anita Leighton, Locked Bag 7064, Liverpool BC 1871, or fax to: 9821 9333, or email lcc@liverpool.nsw.gov.au

For more information regarding this survey please contact Anita Leighton, Community Development Worker (Youth) on 9821 7753.

1. Please tell us a bit about you

a) What suburb do you live in? (Please state) _____

b) What is your age group? (Please circle)

12-14

15-17

18-20

21-24

25+

c) What is your gender? (Please tick) ☐ Male ☐ Female

For entry into the draw to win a \$50 Westfield Shopping Town Gift Card, ensure your details are included below:

Name: _____

Mobile/Ph: _____ Email address: _____

Address: _____

***Optional: If you would like to be added to our mailing list for upcoming youth events or activities please circle how you want to be notified below.

Mail

Text message

Email

All

2. What do you think are the top three issues facing young people in Liverpool? (Please state)

	Top 3 Issues	Your idea for a solution
Issue 1:		
Issue 2:		
Issue 3:		

3. How do you and your friends like to find out about stuff that is important to you, or events that are going on? (Please state)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

4. What kind of youth events would you and/or your friends like to go to in Liverpool? (Please tick more than one if applicable)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sport | <input type="checkbox"/> Forums/Workshops | <input type="checkbox"/> Open Air Cinema |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concerts/Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Competitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts/Creative Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Festivals | Other (please state) _____ | |

5. What activities do you spend a lot of your time doing, and where?

(Please tick which ones you do, and write the suburb/s or place you do them in. Please tick more than one if applicable)

	✓	Suburb/Place		✓	Suburb/Place
Part/Full time work			Outdoor sport activities (e.g. field sports, ie. soccer, bike riding, Skate/Parks)		
Study (i.e. school, uni, TAFE, etc.)			Shopping		
Volunteer group (eg. SES)			Internet (Facebook, MSN, games)		
Parties			Indoor Sport Activities (e.g. swimming, bowling)		
Dance Classes			Art/Crafts		
Involved in Music (eg. Band, Lessons, Playing)			Clubbing/Pubs		
Library			Church group/activities (e.g. youth group)		
'the.space' at Liverpool Library			Other (please specify):		

6. What services, activities, cultural/creative/recreation opportunities would you like to see in Liverpool? (Please state)

7. We would like to know what you plan to do in the future.

Please tick whatever you think will apply to you in each column. You can tick more than one if needed.

	2011 Now – this year	2012 In 1 year's time	2016 In 5 year's time
School/Secondary School			
University			
TAFE			
Apprenticeship/traineeship			
Travel			
Working full time/part time			
Unemployed/not studying			
Don't know/haven't decided			
Moving away from Liverpool			
Other – please tell us what			

8. What are the 3 main types of transport you use to get around to your day to day activities, in Liverpool? (Please put "1" by the most common way, "2" by the second, "3" for the third)?

- ☐ Bus
 ☐ Train
 ☐ Walk
 ☐ Parent drives me
☐ I Drive myself
 ☐ Skate/Scooter
 ☐ Nightrider Bus
 ☐ Taxi Bicycle
 ☐ Friend drives

Other (please state): _____

9. Is there a place that you have difficulty getting to i.e. sporting facility, TAFE, University, workplace etc?

Place:

Reason it's hard to get there:

10. If you could do one thing to help the young people of Liverpool, what would you choose to do? (Please state)

11. Please indicate your response to the following statements on the scale below. (Tick ONE option only)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My community feels like home					
I feel safe in my neighbourhood during the day					
I feel safe walking in my neighbourhood during the night					
People from other countries and cultures enrich this area					
Education and training options in Liverpool are good					
Employment options in Liverpool are good					
Leisure and recreation options in Liverpool are good					

12. Please indicate your response to the following statements on the scale below. (Tick ONE option only)

	Yes	No
I have gone out with a group of friends		
I have attended a spiritual or religious activity		
I have visited a library		
I have attended a sporting or cultural event as a spectator		
I have done unpaid volunteer work		
I am a member of an organised group or club		

13. Is there anything else you would like to say that may be important for Council to know? (Please state)

Thank you for your time in completing this survey 😊

Snapshot of Liverpool's Young people

Young People in Australia

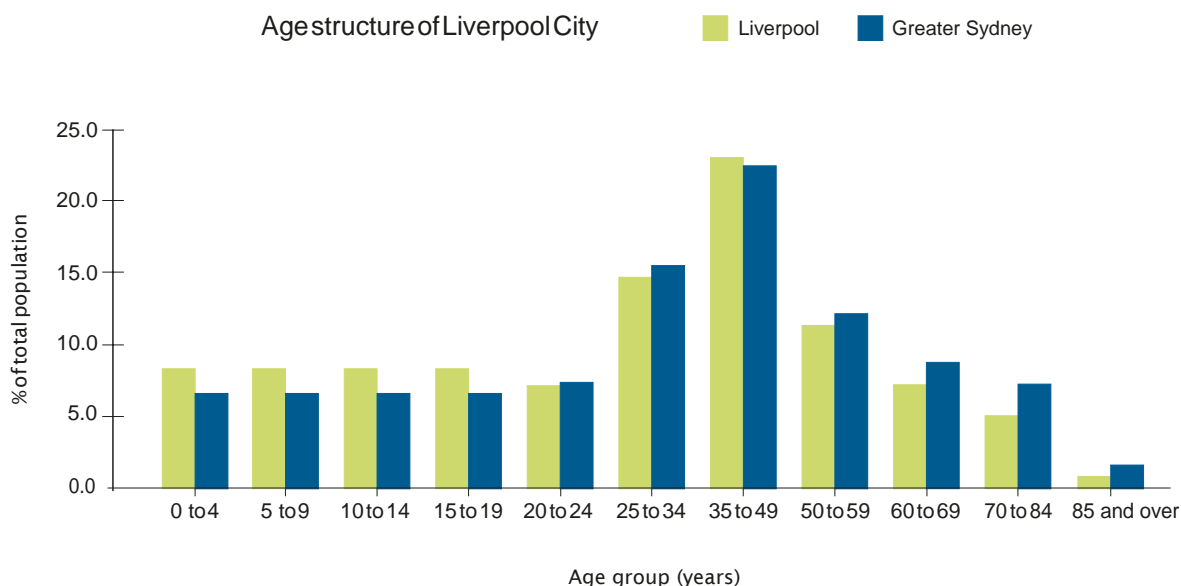
Based on 2011 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census data, almost one-fifth of the Australian population is aged between 12 and 24 years. In other words, they are a young person. This represents approximately 3.5 million young people. Young people are a diverse population group with almost 4 per cent of young Australians identifying as Indigenous and just over 20 per cent born overseas¹².

Young People in Liverpool

There are 34,566 young people living in the Liverpool Local Government Area (LGA) which represents nearly one in five people or 20 per cent of the total population. Liverpool's

population of young people up to the age of 19 years is consistently higher than the Greater Sydney average, and its population of people over the age of 50 is also consistently lower than the Greater Sydney average.

It is important to note that there is also a high proportion of children in the 0-4 and 5-11 age brackets, with large numbers of these age groups in the new release areas such as Hoxton Park, Middleton Grange and West Hoxton. This suggests that Liverpool will continue to have a high proportion of young people for another decade to come. This means that it is vital that we ensure that young people's needs are met, and that we build a community that embraces them as important and active participants.



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011 Census of Population and Housing

¹² These figures were obtained from the 2011 Census.

Distribution of young people aged 12–24 years in all suburbs

Suburb	Number	% of suburb population
Ashcroft	644	19.5
Austral	582	19.3
Busby	934	22.2
Cartwright	396	17.6
Casula	2,755	18.7
Cecil Hills	1,574	22.9
Chipping Norton	1,594	18.0
Denham Court ¹³	298	18.7
Edmondson Park	65	15.3
Green Valley	2,643	21.4
Hammondville	433	13.3
Heckenberg	644	21.6
Hinchinbrook	2,346	22.2
Holsworthy	1,206	23.8
Horningsea Park	717	19.5
Hoxton Park	844	20.1
Leppington	434	18.21
Liverpool	4,027	16.7
Lurnea	1,631	18.9
Middleton Grange	84	16.3
Miller	644	20.9
Moorebank	1,171	15.4
Pleasure Point	60	20.13
Prestons	2,772	19.2
Sadleir	619	20.3
Voyager Point	287	21.0
Warwick Farm	730	16.3
Wattle Grove	1,560	19.0
West Hoxton	1,820	19.9
Total	34,566	19.2

Source: Liverpool Community Profile, 2011 Census

Liverpool has a higher proportion of 12-24 year olds compared with the Greater Sydney region: Sydney's average is 17 per cent compared with Liverpool's 19.2 per cent. As shown in the table above, in some suburbs, the proportion of young people is over 20 per cent. Holsworthy and Cecil Hills have the highest proportions of young people in Liverpool. It is important to also note that the top five suburbs with the most young people are Liverpool, Prestons, Casula, Green Valley and Hinchinbrook.

¹³ Denham Court comprises young people who reside in the Liverpool LGA and Campbelltown LGA. At the time of printing figures for each LGA were not available.

High School Enrolments in Liverpool

There are currently 24 government and non-government secondary schools in Liverpool. In 2010, 16,213 young people were enrolled in these schools. The average apparent school retention rate in Liverpool among government schools was 76.5 per cent in 2011.¹⁴

School	No. of students enrolled ¹⁵
Al-Almanah College	256
All Saints Catholic Boys College (Yr 7-10)	570
All Saints Catholic Girls College (Yr 7-10)	578
All Saints Catholic Senior College (Yr 11-12)	412
Ashcroft High School	622
Casula High School	644
Cecil Hills High School	1,200
Christadelphian Heritage College	118
Clancy Catholic College	927
Good Samaritan Catholic College	1,000
Holsworthy High School	717
Hoxton Park High School	700
James Busby High School	800
John Edmondson High School	1,100
Lawrence Hargrave School	58
Liverpool Boys High School	600
Liverpool Girls High School	1081
Lurnea High School	750
Miller Technology High School	730
Moorebank High School	1,000
St Mark's Coptic Orthodox College	250
Sule College	700
Thomas Hassall Anglican College	650
William Carey Christian School	750
Total	16,213

¹⁴ Source: Department of Education and Communities, Data Analysis and Collections Unit, Planning and Innovation Directorate.
Data sourced from National Schools Statistics Collections (NSSC) 2002-2011

¹⁵ At the time of printing, the number of students enrolled in all schools in 2011 was not available.

Languages spoken at home

In 2006, the top 10 languages spoken by young people aged 13-24 years¹⁶, after English (14,231) are listed in the table below. This reflects the diversity among young people in the Liverpool community.¹⁷

Language	Amount of 13-24 year olds
1. Arabic	2,716
2. Vietnamese	1,177
3. Hindi	1,124
4. Serbian	928
5. Spanish	919
6. Assyrian	473
7. Italian	447
8. Cantonese	408
9. Greek	332
10. Samoan	331

¹⁶ Exact figures are available for the 13-24 year cohorts from the ABS Language Spoken at Home – 5 Year Age Groups by Country of Birth of Person.

¹⁷ At time of printing, information about languages spoken at home for age groups from the 2011 Census was not yet released.



Liverpoolcitycouncil
creating our future together

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